

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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P R 080658Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1451

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 5949

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJ: UNGA: KOREA

SUMMARY: AFTER CONVERSATION WITH MOFA SECGEN ZAITON, ROK
AMBASSADOR CHYUN FEELS ABSTENTION ON BOTH KOREAN RESOLUTIONS
IS MOST HE CAN EXPECT FROM GOM. AT SAME TIME GOM SEEMED
RECEPTIVE TO FRENCH AMENDMENT. CHYUN SAYS ROKG PLANNING
SOME KIND OF POSITIVE ACTION FOLLOWING VOTE THIS YEAR TO
END FURTHER UNGA CONSIDERATION OF KOREAN QUESTION. END SUMMARY.

1. ROK AMBASSADOR CHYUN WAS CONSIDERABLY LESS SANGUINE
ABOUT IMPROVEMENT IN MALAYSIA'S VOTE ON THE KOREAN ITEM
AFTER HIS TALK WITH MOFA SECRETARY GENERAL ZAITON LAST FRIDAY.
TAKING ME ASIDE AT HIS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION, CHYUN SAID
ZAITON HAD TOLD HIM MALAYSIA WANTED TO REDUCE TENSIONS ON THE
KOREAN PENINSULA AND ENCOURAGE NORTH AND SOUTH TO WORK
PEACEFULLY TOWARDS REUNIFICATION. THE TWO SIDES HOWEVER
HAD BROUGHT THEIR CONFLICT TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE
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FORM OF THE CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS, AND IN ZAITON'S VIEW

THE GA CONTEST, WHATEVER THE RESULT, WILL INCREASE TENSIONS AND REDUCE CHANCES FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. MALAYSIA DID NOT WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS QUARREL AND WHILE A FINAL DECISION HAD NOT BEEN REACHED, HE THOUGHT GOM WOULD ABSTAIN ON BOTH RESOLUTIONS IF THEY CAME TO VOTE IN THEIR PRESENT FORM. ZAITON WENT ON TO URGE THAT NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AND THEIR SPONSORS WORK TO FIND SOME COMPROMISE THAT BOTH AIDES COULD ACCEPT.

2. CHYUN RESTATED THE ARGUMENTS, POINTING OUT THE REASONABLE APPROACH AND MODERATE LANGUAGE OF THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, THE ILLOGICAL AND CONTENTIOUS NATURE OF THE HOSTILE ONE. ZAITON TOOK HIS POINT BUT SAID THAT THE TWO RESOLUTIONS HAD ENOUGH COMMON GROUND TO MAKE SOME KIND OF COMPROMISE POSSIBLE.

3. CHYUN SHOWED ZAITON TEXT OF FRENCH AMENDMENT WHICH HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET ACCEPTED. ZAITON STUDIED IT CAREFULLY AND SAID IT APPEARED A GOOD BASIS FOR COMPROMISE. ROK AMBASSADOR LEFT WITH FEELING THAT ABSTENTION ON BOTH RESOLUTIONS WAS BEST HE COULD HOPE FROM MALAYSIA, WITH RECEPTIVITY TO FRENCH OR SOME OTHER COMPROMISE AS ONLY BRIGHT SPOT ON HORIZON. I ASKED IF HE HAD SUGGESTED TO ZAITON THAT GOM REFUSAL TO SUPPORT ROK WOULD HAVE EFFECT ON THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS. CHYUN SAID HE HAD PRESSED HIS CASE STRONGLY BUT MADE NO SPECIFIC SUGGESTION OF RETALIATION.

4. A CASUAL REMARK ABOUT THE UTILITY OF THIS ANNUAL U.N. RITUAL BROUGHT A SURPRISING RUSH OF COMMENT. CHYUN SAID THAT WHATEVER THE OUTCOME IN THE GA THIS YEAR, HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE ACTION (AFTER CONSULTING WITH US, HE HASTENED TO ADD) TO REMOVE THE KOREAN QUESTION FROM THE U.N. THE U.N. INVOLVEMENT IN KOREA NO LONGER CONTRIBUTED TO ROK SECURITY, ON THE CONTRARY, GIVEN ITS PRESENT COMPOSITION, U.N. INVOLVEMENT IN AN EMERGENCY WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE HARMFUL TO THE ROK. THE ANNUAL U.N. RESOLUTION STRUGGLE WAS COSTLY, PUT STRAINS ON ROK BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND PRODUCED AT BEST AN EMPTY "VICTORY." IN RECENT YEARS, HE ADDED HALF APOLOGETICALLY, THE VOTE HAD BECOME NOT A JUDGEMENT OF THE KOREAN QUESTION ON ITS MERITS, BUT RATHER A MEASURE OF THIRD WORLD HOSTILITY TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES. STATES
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FRIENDLY TO KOREA AND WITH NO DIRECT INTEREST IN KOREAN QUESTION HAVE FOLLOWED THE EXTREMISTS TO MAINTAIN THEIR THIRD WORLD CREDENTIALS. HE ADDED THAT IF WE HAD ANY GOOD IDEAS ON HOW TO END THIS SITUATION, HE WAS SURE HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD WELCOME THEM.
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